Notes of the Parking Working Group Meeting
Held on Monday 11th February at 7.15pm in the Rhymes Building

Present: J Jeffrey, Co-ordinator, C McCarthy, P Day, A Pavlou, Councillors, I Greener
C Hearn, Residents.

Absences: S Cast

The meeting had been convened to discuss the Riverside Parking issues and to make recommendations for consideration by the BPC at their meeting on 19th February.

There was a general consensus in the group that the management of the Riverside parking area should be offered to a managed parking services company to run on our behalf.

Both JJ and CH had been making enquiries with a number of these organisations to establish how they work. JJ contacted Smart Parking who operate on the basis that they will survey the car park and agree where to site the ANPR equipment necessary to capture registration plates etc. (Planning permission is required). There is no charge to the BPC for this set up and the organisation makes its money from the ability to fine car owners who overstay their allotted time. (There is also provision to "White Block" certain registration numbers if the BPC did not want them to be charged, this would be controlled by the Clerk, if implemented).

There was consensus in the group that we should provide free parking for local residents in the Riverside Parking area. This should be limited to 3 hours per day 7 days per week, including bank holidays, during the hours of 8.00am to 9.00pm. There would be no parking restrictions outside of these hours.

The group discussed whether we should introduce parking charges if cars were parked for longer than the 3 hours or whether we should fine those who overstayed. We could not reach agreement therefore it is proposed to offer the following options to the BPC for their consideration.

Option 1
Adopt a policy of fines after the 3 hours of free parking to be administered by the managed parking company, who would have a cheaper charge if the fine where paid within a set period.

Option 2
Adopt a policy where a parking charge would be introduced on an hourly basis after the 3 hours of free parking. This revenue to be returned to the BPC, and fines would only apply if the payments were not made or the time was overstayed. Parking charges to be paid by cash, credit card or app, and amounts to be determined and agreed.

The introduction of parking restrictions and either of the above options would be subject to review after 6 months.

Actions from the meeting
CH to find out what is the minimum contractual period required by Smart Parking and respond to CMC as soon as possible.

CM is to organise a meeting with Paul Garrod BANES in order to register formally that we wish to discuss the possibility of the introduction of a Residents Parking Scheme in Batheaston High Street.

CMC is to contact Sarah and ensure that the Riverside parking area is on the Agenda for the next BPC meeting.

JJ to have a representative from Smart Parking to attend the BPC

Meeting closed at 8.30pm